

Riley D-16 Riley Twin

Developed in 1952 by a California Navion owner as more of an experiment than a serious attempt at creating the world's first light twin airplane. The extensive changes made to the rugged Navion airframe were designed and tested by several specialists from the Douglas Aircraft Company during their off hours.

Jack Riley, one of the top aircraft salesman in the United States secured the production rights to the Twin Navion and began production in the second half of 1952. 17 examples of the D-16 were converted by Riley Aircraft before production transferred to Texas based TEMCO. The first examples were equipped with 125 horsepower Lycoming O-290-D engines taken from a Piper PA-20 Pacer. These were replaced by 135 horsepower O-290-D2 engines at the beginning of 1953.

Each of the early D-16s was an individualized conversion. Planes were equipped with the customer's choice of options, avionics, and exterior paint. Major changes involved reshaping the nose cone to a blunter shape, and installing a fuel dump system for the auxiliary fuel tanks in the baggage compartment. After production started the original Sensenich Skyblade variable pitch propeller was replaced by a similar Aeromatic propeller. In early 1953 both were replaced by a fully feathering, constant speed propeller manufactured by Hartzell.

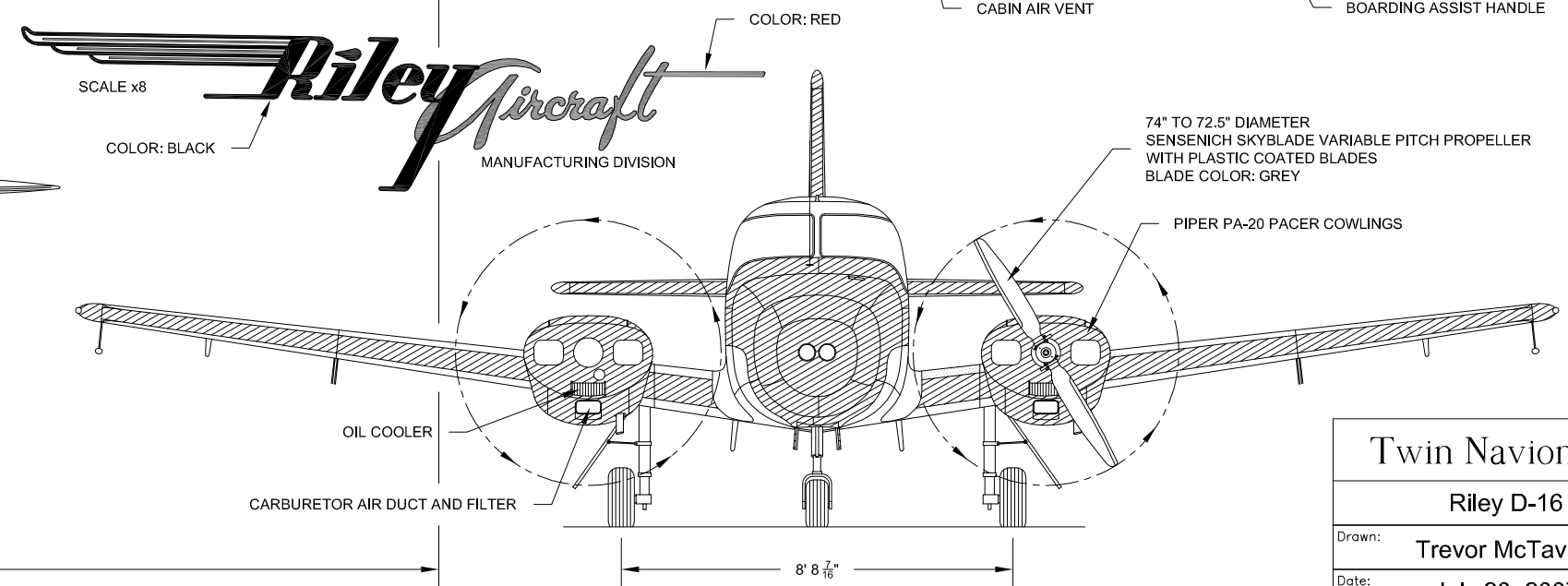
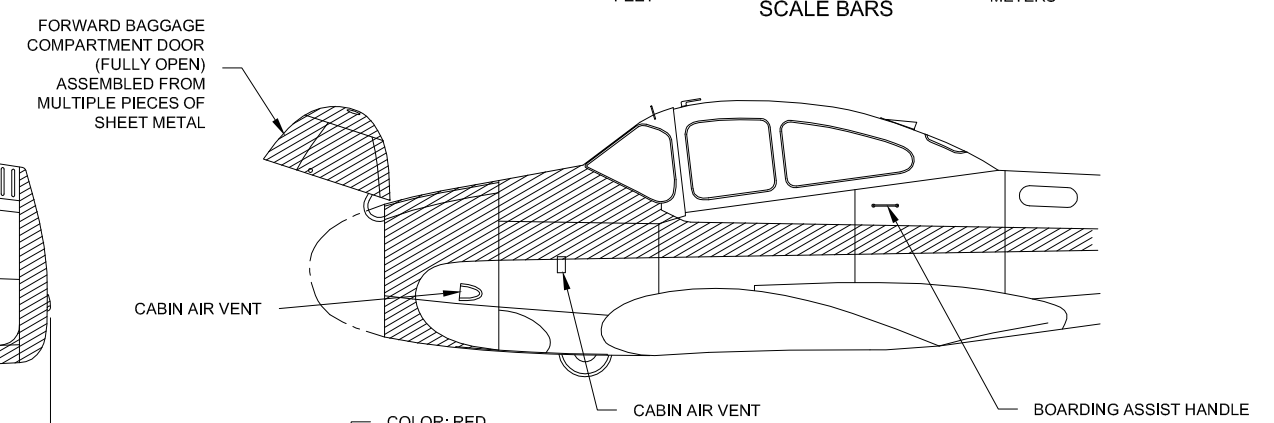
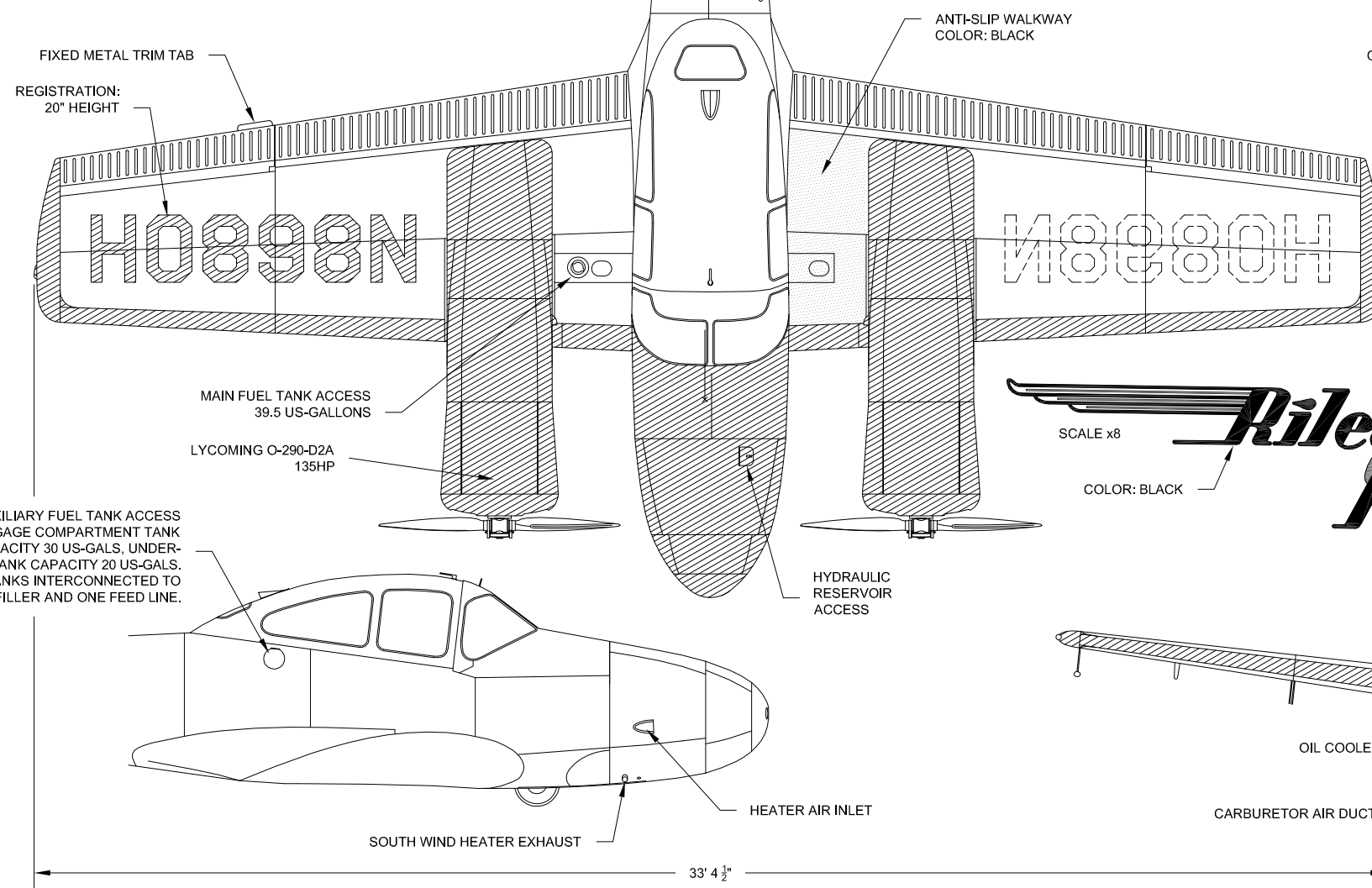
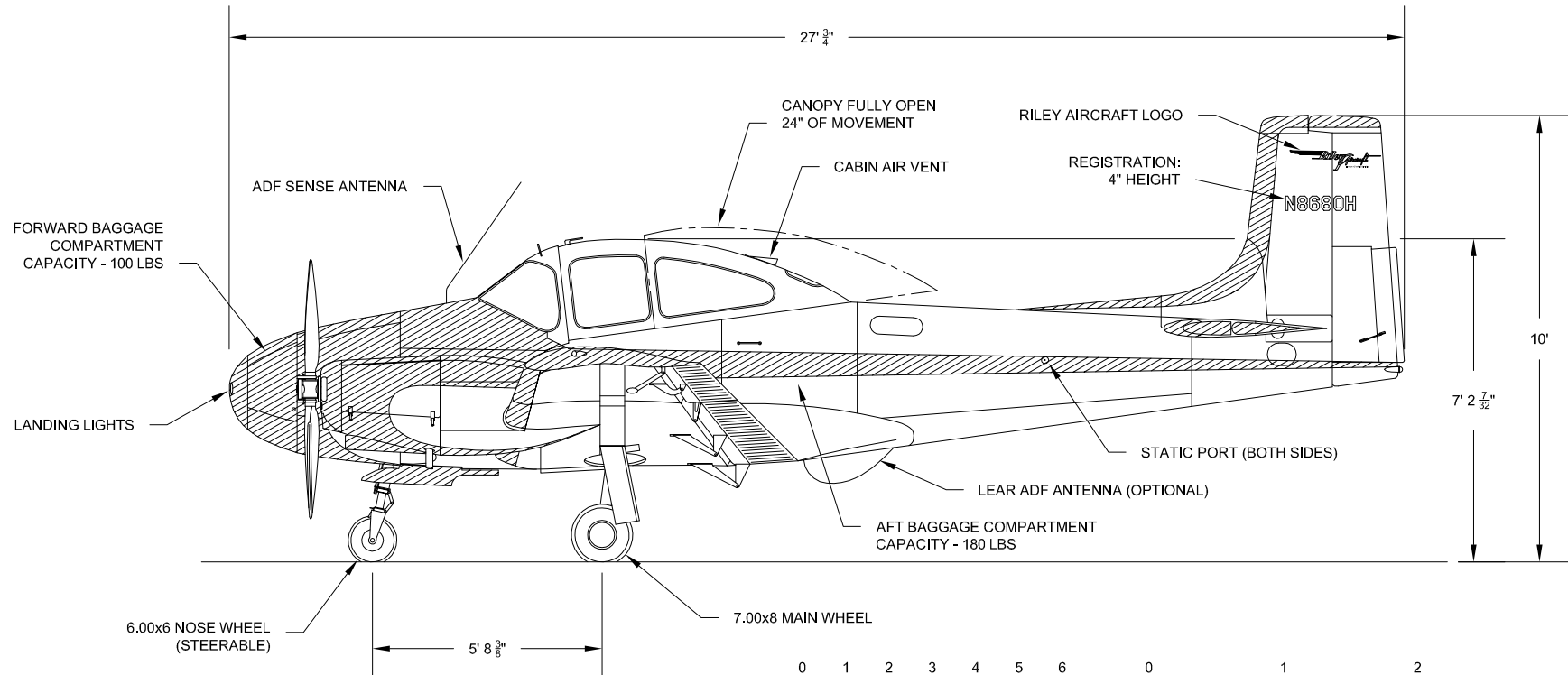
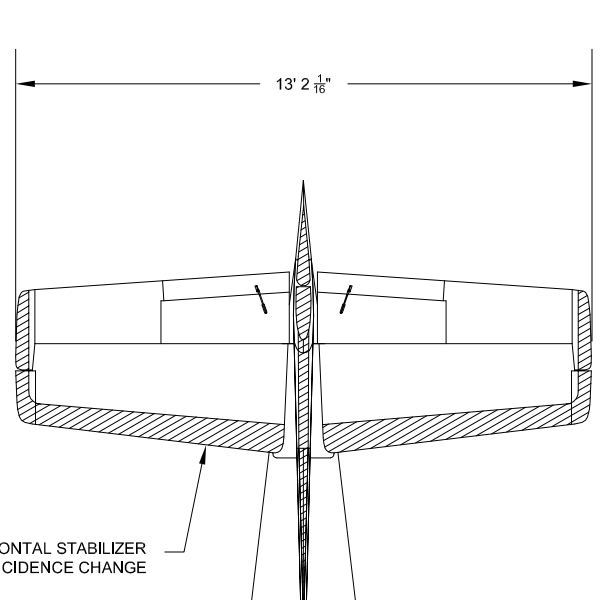
COLOR NOTES:

ALL D-16 RILEY TWINS WERE GIVEN CUSTOM PAINT SCHEMES DESIGNED BY, OR TO THE CUSTOMER'S WISHES. COLOR SCHEMES RANGED FROM THE SUBDUED TO THE GARRISH, INCLUDING ONE AIRCRAFT PAINTED TO MATCH THE OWNER'S FORD THUNDERBIRD CAR.

N8680H (NAV-4-680) WAS BUILT IN DECEMBER 1953 AND FEATURED IN MUCH OF THE EARLY TWIN NAVION PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS.

OVERALL AIRFRAME: WHITE

ACCENT COLOR: LIGHT BLUE



Twin Navion.com	
Riley D-16	
Drawn:	Trevor McTavish
Date:	July 20, 2007
Scale:	1/48
Sheet:	1/1